



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

VERNON MAN CHARGED WITH USING INTERNET TO POSSESS AND DISTRIBUTE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

New Haven, Conn.--Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that a federal grand jury sitting in Hartford has returned an Indictment charging John Salmon, age 39, formerly of 33-3 Windermere Avenue, Vernon, Connecticut, with possession and distribution of child pornography that had been transmitted over the internet. The Indictment was returned on February 1, 2006, but was sealed by court order until Salmon could be located. On February 2, 2006, Salmon was arrested in New Jersey.

Salmon appeared earlier today before United States Magistrate Judge William I. Garfinkel in Bridgeport and entered a plea of not guilty to the charges. Salmon is currently detained. Judge Garfinkel has scheduled a detention hearing in this matter for February 16 at 12:00 p.m. The case has been assigned to United States District Judge Mark R. Kravitz in New Haven.

If convicted on the distribution charge, Salmon faces a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 15 years and a maximum term of imprisonment of 40 years. If convicted on the possession charge, Salmon faces a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years. Salmon also faces a possible fine of up to \$250,000 on each of the two counts.

U.S. Attorney O'Connor stressed that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial at which it is the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

This case is being investigated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the Vernon Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney John A. Danaher III is prosecuting the case.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.